



CENSUS

HORTICULTURE - \$215 MILLION INDUSTRY

By Larry Whaley

According to the 1998 Census of Horticultural Specialties, Tennessee producers of horticultural products accounted for \$215 million in sales, up dramatically from the 1988 sales of \$83 million. Tennessee ranked 13th in the U.S. in total horticultural sales for 1998, up one position from 1988. Nursery plants, annual bedding/garden plants, and herbaceous perennials accounted for 63 percent of the State's total horticultural sales for 1998 at \$135 million. Tennessee nurserymen marketed more than 13 million nursery plants valued at nearly \$92 million, ranking 9th in the U.S. Total horticulture sales at the U.S. level were \$10.6 billion. Additional information is available on our website at www.usda.gov/nass.

TENNESSEE'S RANK IN UNITED STATES

Item	Rank	Operations	Total		Wholesale	
			Number	Sales	Number	Sales
			1,000 plants	\$1,000	1,000 plants	\$1,000
Dogwood	1	139	588	6,180	565	6,101
Redbud	1	103	185	2,124	178	2,006
Birch	2	109	140	2,587	136	2,494
Red Maple	2	113	170	3,519	134	3,142
Sugar Maple	2	94	64	1,835	57	1,678
Sweet Gum	2	65	44	1,157	44	1,151
Willow	2	55	64	1,039	61	1,008
Flowering Cherry	2	83	188	2,366	183	2,281
Tobacco Transplants	4	34	n/a	1,228	n/a	1,228
All Nursery Plants	9	354	13,123	91,927	10,004	82,359

OTHER TENNESSEE HIGHLIGHTS

Item	Total	
	Operations	Sales (\$1,000)
Annual Bedding and Garden Plants	114	25,127
Herbaceous Perennial Plants	22	18,202
Turfgrass Sod, Sprigs, or Plugs	30	16,481
Unfinished Plants & Propagation Materials	55	12,446
Potted Flowering Plants	11	10,985
Greenhouse Produced Food Crops	13	869
Cut Christmas Trees	19	374
Foliage Plants	4	215

CORN LEADS IRRIGATED CROPS IN TENNESSEE

Corn ranked as the number one irrigated crop in Tennessee, according to the 1998 Farm and Ranch Irrigation Survey. Other top irrigated crops, in order of acreage, were vegetables, soybeans, cotton, and tobacco. Together these five crops accounted for 87 percent of all irrigated land in the state. A total of 22,741 acres were irrigated in Tennessee during 1998 from the 275 farms reporting. Tennessee farmers, excluding all abnormal and horticultural specialty farms, participated in this nationwide survey during 1999 which provided a snapshot of irrigation practices in the state's agricultural industry for the prior year. For more information on the 1998 Farm and Ranch Irrigation Survey visit the NASS homepage at www.usda.gov/nass/.

SELECTED CROPS HARVESTED FROM IRRIGATED FARMS, TENNESSEE, 1998

Crop	Irrigated				Nonirrigated			
	Farms	Acres Harvested	Unit	Avg. Yield per Acre	Farms	Acres Harvested	Unit	Avg. Yield per Acre
Corn for Grain ¹	18	5,789	bu	133	76	13,993	bu	105
Vegetables	60	5,731	n/a	n/a	11	(D)	n/a	n/a
Soybeans	19	4,226	bu	50	48	7,617	bu	19
Cotton	12	3,274	lb.	740	12	10,554	lb.	668
Tobacco	112	849	lb.	2,149	25	416	lb.	2,018

¹ Acres harvested includes corn for silage. (D) - Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual farms. n/a - not applicable.

EXPENSES FOR ON-FARM PUMPING OF IRRIGATION WATER, MAINTENANCE, AND REPAIRS OF EQUIPMENT, 1998

State	Total Energy Expenses for Pumping					Total Expenses for Maintenance and Repairs				
	Farms	Pumps Powered	Acres Irrigated	Expenses (\$1000)	Expenses Per Acre Irrigated (Dollars)	Farms	Acres Irrigated	Expenses (\$1000)	Avg. Per Farm (Dollars)	Avg. Per Acre Irrigated
Tennessee	253	428	22,503	386	17.15	182	20,770	299	1,643	14.39
U.S.	117,611	454,233	38,314,782	1,223,106	31.92	115,549	41,213,523	468,179	4,052	11.36

STATE AQUACULTURE SALES NEARLY \$4 MILLION

The value of domestic aquaculture products sold in Tennessee during 1998 was \$3.9 million, according to the 1998 Census of Aquaculture. This special census provided the first detailed picture of the state's aquaculture industry. Food fish (e.g., catfish and trout) accounted for a fourth of the total sales, but 92 percent of the farms producing aquaculture. Baitfish, ornamental fish, crustaceans, and other animal aquaculture accounted for the remaining three-fourths of total sales. Nationally, the sales of aquaculture products grew from \$45 million in 1974 to over \$978 million in 1998. For more information on the 1998 Census of Aquaculture visit the NASS homepage at www.usda.gov/nass/.

VALUE OF AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS SOLD BY TYPE

State	Total		Food Fish	
	Farms ¹	Sales (\$1,000)	Farms	Sales (\$1,000)
Tennessee	39	3,901	36	1,008
U.S. Total	4,028	978,012	2,168	691,714

¹ Any commercial or noncommercial place from which \$1,000 or more of aquaculture products were sold or normally would have been sold during 1998